

Remarks

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful examination of this application and the clear explanation of the rejections.

The new title corresponds to the new independent claim.

Applicant proposes amending drawing Figures 1A, 1B, 1C, 2, and 3 to add legend of "Prior Art", and Figure 4 to insert a numeral "404" to identify the RESPONSE CIRCUITRY box. Applicant encloses a copy of these figures with the proposed changes made in red ink. Applicant requests approval.

The new independent claim 12 now specifies an integrated circuit comprising input pads, output pads, core circuitry coupled between the input pads and the output pads, and output circuitry coupled between the core circuitry and the output pads.

For each output pad the output circuitry includes a tri-state buffer and comparator circuitry.

The tri-state buffer has a core input lead connected to a core output lead of the core circuitry. A data output lead connects to an output pad. An enable input lead carries an enable signal that can place the data output of the tri-state buffer in a high impedance state.

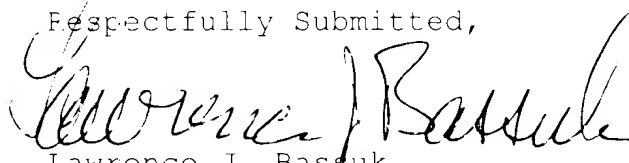
The comparator circuitry has a core input lead connected to the core output lead and the core input lead of the tri-state buffer. An encoded response input lead connects to the output pad and the data output lead of the tri-state buffer. An enable input lead connects to the enable input lead of the tri-state buffer.

These particular limitations distinguish over the references of record.

The depending claims add further limitations not taught or suggested by the references of record.

The application is in allowable form and the claims distinguish over the cited references. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration or further examination of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lawrence J. Bassuk".

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